THE SEVENTH DAY.

27th February 1914.

The Assembly met again at 11 A. M. on Friday, the 27th February 1914.

125. The disirability of establishing a Higher Grade Secondary School for Boys and a Lower Grade Secondary School for Girls, at Haripad.

Mr. S. Bhaskaran Moothathu, B. A. (Member, Town Improvement Committee, Haripad) said that Haripad had a Government English High School and a private one, known as the Shunmukavilasom High School. The latter had not been given any aid from the Government on the ground of its being sectarian, and it was abolished in 1088. The former was reduced to a Lower Grade Secondary School with the advent of the Education Code. The fact that both the English High Schools had a sufficient number of students was clear proof of the necessity for a Higher Grade Secondary School at Haripad. He, therefore, requested that the Lower Grade Secondary School at Haripad might be gradually raised to a Higher Grade Secondary School by the addition of one class every year.

The Member next said that there were three Higher Grade Elementary Schools for Girls in the Karthigappalli taluk and that it was necessary to provide for English education for the girls receiving instruction in them. Such schools would be the best means of removing the paucity of female teachers. He requested that the Preparatory Class might be introduced in the Higher Grade Elementary School for Girls at Haripad, with the beginning of the next school-year, and, if it proved a success, the remaining classes also might be started. The experiment might be tried also at Karthigappalli and Ramapuram, where there were Higher Grade Elementary Schools.

Dewan's reply.—Noted. The policy of the Government is decidedly against increasing the number of the Departmental *Higher* Grade Secondary Schools.

126. The desirability of opening a Second Grade College in Central Travancore.

Mr. N. G. Parameswaran Pillai (Member, Mavelikara taluk) said that the existing Colleges at Kottayam, Trivandrum and Nagercoil did not meet the full demand and they failed to be of use to all the taluks alike. Out of 297 students, who had gone up for collegiate education in 1913, so many as 125 had joined Colleges outside Travancore. Every student going up for collegiate education tried, in the first instance, to get admission in the Colleges in Travancore, and went outside only as a last resort or under sheer necessity. Thus, an additional College was a real need and would not be one too many for the student population of Travancore as a whole.

He then pointed out that Central Travancore had the best claim for a College viewed from any stand-point. While the Colleges at Trivandrum and Nagercoil afforded facilities for collegiate education to those to the south of Quilon, and the Colleges at Kottayam and Ernakulam met the demands of those in the north, the central part of Travancore was devoid of any such facilities. The taluks in Central Travancore were not backward in secondary education. There were seven full-blown High Schools within a radius of twelve miles, a unique feature found nowhere else in Travancore or outside, and each one of them was overflowing in numbers. There were also about fourteen Lower Grade Secondary Schools that served as feeders to them. For want of facilities for higher education in Central Travancore, many holders

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of the Secondary School Leaving Certificate could not go in for collegiate education. The percentage of such certificate-holders in Central Travancore, who had gone up for collegiate education, was much less than that of those in South or North Travancore or in the Capital, where there were ample facilities for higher studies.

From the stand-point of cost and convenience for living, Central Travancore as a whole, or a station such as Mavelikara, which was the centre of Central Travancore, had attractions far more than Trivandrum or many other places in Travancore or elsewhere. It had an unobjectionable climate and was a place of cheap living.

The Member next said that he was not unaware of the possible attitude of the Government, who might say that the need had to be met by private enterprise; but he said that it was not easy in the present day for any person or body to run a College on satisfactory lines. His pleading was only for a Second Grade College to begin with, and it would be enough if two branches of study were instituted. He pointed out also that an initial outlay of Rs. 50,000 and a recurring expenditure of Rs. 1,000 a month was all that was required for the proposed Second Grade College. He requested that his proposition might receive the kind and sympathetic consideration of the Government.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

127. The necessity for opening the Sixth Form in the Higher Grade Secondary School for Boys at Chengannur.

Mr. Kochu Thomman Kuruvila (Member, Chengannur taluk) said that the Fourth Form was opened in the Higher Grade Secondary School at Chengannur in 1913. When the people of the taluk prayed for the addition of both Forms V and VI in the next following year, they were told by the educational authorities that one additional Form would be opened in each year, and they were also asked to put up a building which would accommodate all the three higher classes. The people accordingly put up a decent building and Form V was opened in 1913. The time had now arrived for giving them the highest Form, and, if that was not sanctioned from the next educational year, it would be a sore disappointment to the people. In view to allow more accommodation, the people were ready and willing to construct a temporary shed for Form VI, if they knew that the class would be sanctioned. Replying to the Dewan, the Member said that, before the beginning of the next educational year, the building would be ready. He, therefore, prayed for the opening of Form VI from the next year.

Dewan's reply.—The Director of Public Instruction will do the needful.

128. The need for opening a Lower Grade Secondary School for Girls at Thiruvella.

Mr. K. M. Mamman Mappillay (Member, Town Improvement Committee, Thiruvalla) said that the Thiruvalla taluk had the highest percentage of strength to school-going population in the whole State. There were three Higher Grade Elementary Schools for Girls in the taluk, with about 1,000 girls receiving instruction in them. About 35 girls were also prosecuting their studies in the Boy's Schools at Thiruvalla. That would go to show that the taluk was not lagging behind in the matter of female education either. The necessity for a Lower Grade Secondary School for Girls at Thiruvalla was conceded by the late Director, Dr. Mitchell, so far back as 1085, and he had included Thiruvalla as one of the places where a school should be started. The Inspectress of Schools came to Thiruvalla in 1088, and, being convinced of the need for a Lower Grade Secondary School for Girls there, she examined three buildings and promised to start the school in Edavom 1088. She went to the length of asking the leading men of the place to have girls ready for admission. But, at the last moment, the school happened to rise up at Chengannur. Owing to the people's agitation, the Inspectress protracted the correspondence, and she eventually recommended a school for Thiruvalla. But it was understood that the Director's idea was that the experimental period of the

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